

Test C

The four-minute mile

It is the nature of athletic records that they are broken and their place is taken by new ones. Yet in many sports
__(1)__, there is a mark which is not
__(2)__ in itself, but which becomes a legend as athletes ____(3)__ to break it. The most ____(4)__ of these is the attempt to run the mile in ____(5)__ than four minutes. In 1945, the mile record was ____(6)__ to 4 minutes, 1.5 seconds. And there, for nine years, it stuck. Then, in 1954, a medical student ____(7)__ Roger Bannister decided to try and break the record. He had been ____(8)__ for this day since running the mile in 4 minutes, 2 seconds the ____(9)__ year. Two other runners set the pace for him, and ____(10)__ 250 yards to go he burst ahead for the finish. He wrote ____(11)__: 'My body had exhausted all its energy, but it ____(12)__ on running just the same. Those ____(13)__ few seconds seemed never-ending. I could see the line of the finishing tape. I jumped like a man making a desperate attempt to save himself from danger. 'Bannister's time was 3 minutes, 59.4 seconds.
__(14)__ this record has been broken on many ____(15)__ since, Bannister's achievement will never be forgotten.

1. A) happenings B) events C) games
D) matches
2. A) central B) major C) significant
D) considerable
3. A) try B) try on C) try out D) try for
4. A) known B) public C) noticeable D) famous
5. A) smaller B) less C) lower D) under
6. A) broken down B) lessened C) decreased
D) brought down
7. A) entitled B) called C) nicknamed D) known
8. A) trying B) studying C) running D) training
9. A) early B) previous C) past D) former
10. A) on B) in C) with D) by
11. A) afterwards B) then C) next D) after
12. A) went B) continued C) ran D) got
13. A) last B) late C) latest D) later
14. A) But B) In spite of C) However
D) Although
15. A) accidents B) times C) occasions
D) incidents